



## What can I do while I wait for the Minister to allow me to apply for asylum?

*Are you an asylum seeker who arrived by boat and have not yet applied for asylum?*

If the answer is yes, here are 6 things you can do now while you wait for the Minister to allow you to apply.

### 1. Ensure you keep your contact detail up to date (address and phone number)

- Call 1300 728 662
- Or complete Form 929, available here: <http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/929.pdf>
  - Note: The Department doesn't confirm that they have received the form

### 2. Submit a Freedom of Information application requesting a copy of your file

- Complete Form 424A, available here: <http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/424a.pdf>
  - It is free
  - You must have proof of ID attached to form (can be your Immi Card)
  - Ask for a copy of your entire immigration file including:
    - internal memos and correspondence
    - recordings and written notes of interviews
    - any records of decisions relating to screening in or out
  - You can post or email the form (foi.vic@immi.gov.au)
  - It usually takes at least one month to receive your documents

### 3. Prepare a draft Protection Visa application form

- Complete a draft Protection visa application Form 866, available here: <http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/866.pdf>
  - It is important to answer each question. If you don't know the answer, write 'I don't know'
  - It is important not to guess any information
  - We recommend you obtain migration advice before submitting your form

### 4. Prepare a draft 'statement of claims'

- A 'statement of claims' is a written copy of your story and the reasons you can't go home
- RACS has a useful factsheet available here: <http://www.racs.org.au/factsheets/>
- We recommend you obtain migration advice before submitting your statement of claims

### 5. Collect any documents that support your story

- Collect documents that support your story including where possible, identity documents
- This might include:
  - Letters
  - Medical or counselling reports
  - Photographs
  - News articles about events that relate to your story
  - Membership cards
- If the documents are not in English they will need to be translated
- Two translations services are VITS: <http://www.vits.com.au/> and All Graduates Interpreting and Translating: <http://www.allgraduates.com.au/>
- We recommend you obtain migration advice before submitting your supporting documents

### 6. Consider finding a lawyer to assist you

- Generally government funded legal assistance (IAAAS) will not be available
- Government funded legal assistance may be available for unaccompanied minors